

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A fluid dynamic bearing apparatus comprising:

a hydrodynamic groove region in which a plurality of hydrodynamic grooves are arranged;[[,]]

a smooth surface opposing the hydrodynamic groove region;[[,]] and

a bearing gap ~~which is formed~~disposed between the hydrodynamic groove region and the smooth surface and in which a fluid dynamic pressure is produced by relative rotation ~~of a fixed side and a rotation side~~between the smooth surface and the hydrodynamic groove region,

wherein the hydrodynamic groove region includes first and second roll-over portions, the roll-over portions being generated when the hydrodynamic groove region is formed by thrusting a pattern corresponding to the shape of the hydrodynamic groove region so as to carry out plastic processing such that the first and second roll-over portions are disposed at first and second ends of the hydrodynamic groove region, respectively, and

the smooth surface ~~being is~~ defined by a step so that its ~~as to have a~~ length becomes shorter than ~~that a~~ length of the hydrodynamic groove region so that the smooth surface opposes the hydrodynamic groove region except at the first and second roll-over portions of the hydrodynamic groove region.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A fluid dynamic bearing apparatus according to claim 1 ~~which further comprises~~comprising a bearing sleeve and a shaft member, said bearing gap being ~~formed~~disposed between ~~the an~~ inner circumferential surface of the bearing sleeve and ~~the an~~ outer circumferential surface of the shaft member.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A fluid dynamic bearing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the shaft member has an outer diameter side and is provided with~~includes~~ a flange portion having an end face, the flange portion overhanging to the outer diameter side, and said bearing gap is ~~further formed~~disposed between ~~an~~the end face of the flange portion and a face opposing the end face.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) A motor having a fluid dynamic bearing apparatus according to claim 1.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) A motor having a fluid dynamic bearing apparatus according to claim 2.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A motor having a fluid dynamic bearing apparatus according to claim 3.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)